

Nonchalant Wycombe Beat Barking And Bad Luck Bogey

Wycombe 3, Barking 1.

By "NOVA"

DESPITE the handicap of having only nine fit men for all of the second half of their second round East Anglian cup game at Loakes Park on Saturday, Wycombe Wanderers—almost nonchalantly—beat a rather poor Barking side 3-1.

Wycombe had to reshuffle their team before the game actually started. Left-back Alistair Lewis was unable to arrive at the ground in time for the kick-off because his car broke down and influenza-victim Charlie Gale had to "cry-off". Both players missed their first games of the season.

Dave Worley, Wycombe's play-anywhere reserve, came in at left back and that other utility player, Peter James, moved back from right-wing to left-half. To make up the team Paul Bates—who was still unfit—sportingly played on the right wing.

But Wycombe's problems did not end there. Len Worley, back in the side after about three weeks' absence through illness, was obviously unwell and at half-time collapsed in the dressing-room. He was unable to continue in the second half.

Bates, although playing at a walking pace, was still able to make two goals for the new goal-snatching centre-forward Jimmy Hay and put in some of the best shots of the match.

HAY'S TRIUMPH

The game was also a triumph for Hay. Apart from scoring two goals, he combined well with wee Georgie Blair and the enthusiastic Tony Horseman.

Peter James had an excellent game at wing-half and broke his goal-scoring famine with a great opening goal from 25 yards range.

John Fisher and Dave Thomas both continued to play classy football, while John Beck and Dave Worley, who plays his heart

out no matter where he plays, helped to form a strong-as-ever defence.

Barking opened the scoring rather against the run of the play when centre-forward Lakey rammed home a good goal after Brown had only been able to palm out a shot.

Five minutes later James scored his great goal and Wycombe took complete control.

The second half opened with Wycombe in full song. Thomas and Bates both sent shots just over the bar before Hay fired them into the lead after Bates had slipped past the full-back and pulled the ball back. Hay, ever alert, shot first time into the net.

After 71 minutes a similar move resulted in another Hay goal, to end Wycombe scoring. Honest toilers Barking were not in the same class as Wycombe.

WYCOMBE STAR COLLAPSES

Wycombe 3 Barking 1

LEN WARLEY, returning after three weeks' illness to captain Wycombe Wanderers against Barking in the East Anglian Cup yesterday, collapsed in the dressing-room at half-time and could not resume in the second half.

Worley had played well in the first half when Wycombe, combining better in attack and well served by Thomas and James at wing half, equalised within three minutes through James after centre-forward Lakey had given Barking the lead in the 27th minute.

Although Lakey worked hard in their attack, Barking rarely looked like beating the competent home defence in the second half.

With only four forwards Wycombe played brilliantly and won with two goals from their new centre forward, Jimmy Hays.